

Applicant: Meggiolan et al.
Application No.: 10/663,560

REMARKS

In the Action, claims 1-58 were made subject to a restriction requirement. Applicant respectfully traverses the restriction requirement. However, in order to advance prosecution of the Application, Applicant elects Group I, corresponding to claims 1-14 and 37-47, for examination on the merits, subject to the below remarks.

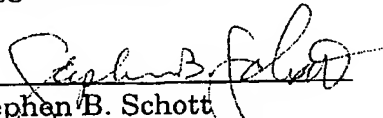
A restriction requirement based on distinction is proper if the inventions are distinct and a serious burden on the Examiner exists in examining the application. Applicant respectfully submits that no serious burden exists in examining all of the claims in the application. The inventions of claim groups I-V, as separated by the Examiner, are so inter-related as to require a same field of search. Consequently, no serious burden exists. As such, examination of all of the pending claims together would be more efficient than separating the claims for examination in different applications.

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In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the restriction requirement and examination of all of the pending claims. If for any reason the Examiner believes that an interview, either telephonically or in person, would advance prosecution of the application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned to arrange an interview.

Respectfully submitted,

Meggiolan et al.

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